Appln. No.: 09/904,344

Amdt. Dated Dec. 20, 2005

Reply to Office Action dated Sept. 27, 2005

## **REMARKS:**

Claims 25, 44, and 57 have been cancelled. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and other applications. Claims 1-24, 26-43 and 45-56 are pending in this application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 1-24, 26-43 and 45-56.

Applicants note that the PTO-1449 form attached to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 1, 2005, has not been initialed and returned by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the PTO-1449 form filed with this Information Disclosure Statement be initialed and returned by the Examiner with the next communication.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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